

Appl. No. 10/716,350
Amdt. dated January 18, 2005
Reply to Office Action of November 30, 2004

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Amended claims 1, 10, 16 and 21 - 23 as well as original claims 2 - 9, 11 - 15, 17 - 20 are presented for Examiner Pickett's consideration.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.111, reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

By way of the Office Action mailed November 30, 2004, Examiner Pickett rejected claims 1, 2, 5, 10, 16 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as allegedly being anticipated and thus unpatentable over U.S. 2003/0115837 A1 to Zimmer et al. This rejection is respectfully **traversed** to the extent that it may apply to the presently presented claims.

By way of the Office Action mailed November 30, 2004, Examiner Pickett rejected claims 1, 2, 4 - 6, 10, 15 - 17 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as allegedly being anticipated and thus unpatentable over U.S. 5,050,742 to Muckenfuhs. This rejection is respectfully **traversed** to the extent that it may apply to the presently presented claims.

By way of the Office Action mailed November 30, 2004, Examiner Pickett rejected claim 21 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as allegedly being obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made and thus unpatentable over either U.S. Publication 2003/0115837A1 or U.S. Patent Number 5,050,742 to Muckenfuhs. This rejection is respectfully **traversed** to the extent that it may apply to the presently presented claims.

By way of the Office Action mailed November 30, 2004, Examiner Pickett objected to claims 22 and 23 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but stated that these claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Applicant has amended independent claims 1, 10 and 16 to incorporate the language of allowable dependent claim 22. Applicant has also amended dependent claims 21 - 23. Dependent claim 21 now incorporates the allowable subject matter of claim 23 and is now dependent upon independent claim 1. Dependent claim 22 now incorporates the allowable subject matter of claim 23 and is now dependent upon independent claim 10. Lastly, dependent claim 23 is now dependent upon independent claim 16. No new matter has been introduced by way of these amendments, and therefore, they should be entered at this time.

Since Examiner Pickett has indicated that the subject matter of original dependent claims 22 and 23 was allowable if written in independent form, currently amended independent claims 1, 10 and

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16 are now in condition for allowance. Furthermore, amended dependent claims 21 - 23 are also in condition for allowance at this time since they depend from allowable independent claims.

For the reasons stated above, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1 - 23 are in form for allowance.

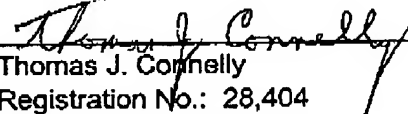
Please charge any prosecutorial fees which are due to Kimberly-Clark Worldwide, Inc. deposit account number 11-0875.

The undersigned may be reached at: (920) 721-2455.

Respectfully submitted,

DAROLD D. TIPPEY

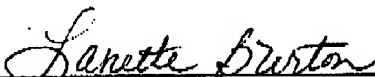
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CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Fax No. (703) 872-9306 on January 18, 2005.

By:


Lanette Burton